

## **BIO 3364 PLANT TAXONOMY – SPRING 2018**

Lecture LDB 130; MW 10-11

Lab LDB 130 W 2-5

**Instructor:** Justin Williams  
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Office Hours: MW 11-12, 1-2 W; or by appointment

**Suggested Text:** **Guide to Flowering Plant Families** Vascular Plant Taxonomy  
by Walters & Keil.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:** To provide the student with basic ability and skills to identify major plant families. In addition, the course will provide the student with a broad knowledge of plant taxonomy, and the impact of plants on economics, ecosystems, history, and art both today and in the past.

**GRADING:** The total course grade will be configured from the following points:

50	Participation (Attendance to field trips, enthusiasm etc.)
100	Lab Quizzes (10 quizzes at 10 points each)
100	Lecture Exam April 24
150	Final Exam May 3; During the last lab, Bearkat Camp

A = 90%	D = 60%
B = 80%	F = 50%
C = 70%	

**Lab quizzes** will be the first 20 minutes of lab or lecture. There will be no make up quizzes. There will be 11 quizzes, the lowest quiz will be dropped or counted as an absence.

**Laboratory:** There will be a total of 15 labs. Labs are designed to familiarize the student with the key elements of herbarium and field techniques and botanical orders and families. Attendance to all labs is expected.

**Field trips:** Attendance to at least 1 weekend field trip is recommended for the student. Of course students are welcome to attend more than 1 field trip space permitting.

**Attendance:** Steady attendance is expected in this course. For every lab missed I will deduct 5 pts from your participation grade.

January 24	Walk on campus Introduction to plant families.
January 31	Introduction to Plant morphology: Leaves, habit, roots, and stems.
February 7	Introduction to Fruits.
February 14	Quiz on plant morphology. Herbaria, collecting techniques, taxonomic keys. Ferns and gymnosperms.
February 21	Quiz ferns and gymnosperms. Introduction to monocots.
February 28	Quiz monocots. Monocots continued.
March 7	Quiz monocots. Magnolidea.
March 14	Spring Break
March 21	Quiz Magnolidea. Introduction to Hamamelidea.
March 28	Quiz. Introduction to Caryophyllidae. Collect plants at field Station
April 4	Quiz Introduction to Asterideae.
April 11	Quiz. Asterideae continued.
April 18	Quiz Review of material.
April 25	Review
May 2	Laboratory Final

**Class Lectures:** Lectures will cover the history and science of plant taxonomy, in addition to identification of families. Material from lab will be included on lecture exams and vice-versa.